



147th Anniversary of the Battle of Gettysburg National Park Service Special Programming

In commemoration of the 147th anniversary of the Battle of Gettysburg, National Park Service Rangers at Gettysburg National Military Park will offer special programming designed for visitors of all ages, interests and levels of knowledge. Detailed handouts are available at the Visitor Center information desk and on the park web site at www.nps.gov/gett for each of the sets of programs described below. All of these programs are free of charge.

Real-Time Programs – A series of 20 programs over three days offers an opportunity to understand the battle action at specific sites as close as possible to the hour of the particular engagement. Programs range in length from 30 to 60 minutes and are presented in chronological order over the three day anniversary. They provide brief snapshots of the dramatic events that took place at each site as close as possible to its “real time” during the battle. This year’s theme is “Famous Leaders and Fighting Men,” so programs will focus on key leaders and units that helped shape the battle. Although visitors may pick-and-choose from the Real Time itinerary, the programs link together to create a full narrative of the battle. Minimal walking is involved on each program, and visitors will need to make short drives between program locations if participating in the full series.

Anniversary Battle Walks – These programs are designed for those visitors seeking more in-depth and immersive programs on specific events and areas of the battlefield. There are two walks on July 1, four on July 2, and three on July 3, including a special Pickett’s Charge program by a team of rangers that enables visitors to either follow the Confederate attack or the Union defense. Each walk lasts approximately three hours and may include up to two miles of hiking. Some of the terrain covered can be moderately difficult and include tall grass. Water, headgear, sun screen, insect repellent and comfortable walking shoes are necessary.

Anniversary Programs for Young People – (ages 6-13) – On each day of the anniversary the park will offer a special program specifically geared for young people and their families. July 1 participants will fall in with General Buford’s Union cavalry. The July 2 program will place participants in the 15th Alabama Infantry, and on July 3 they will serve with the artillery on Cemetery Ridge. Each program lasts one hour, and includes lots of activity and hands-on opportunities.

Regular Summer Season Programming -- All of the above programming is in addition to our regular summer, daily ranger guided programs. A schedule of these programs is available at our information desk and on the park web site. They will run from mid-June through mid-August. Programs range in time length from 30 minutes to 2 hours and you are sure to find something to suit any interest or level of knowledge.

Experience Gettysburg this summer and walk in the footsteps of those who made history here.